

Library of Congress Training for  
***RDA: Resource Description & Access***

# **FRBR Fundamental Concepts**

Cooperative and Instructional Programs Division  
Library of Congress

June 2012

## FRBR Overview and Application

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### Understanding Conceptual Relationships



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## Course Objectives

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At the end of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand FRBR as a conceptual model
- Understand FRBR terminology
- Identify FRBR Group 1 entities
- Identify FRBR Group 1 attributes
- Understand FRBR relationships
- Appreciate FRBR Group 2 and Group 3 entities
- Apply RDA: Resource Description & Access with a better appreciation of its underlying concepts

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## Why FRBR?

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- Why do you need to understand this?
  - RDA is based on this conceptual model
  - RDA uses these terms and language
  - To make the catalog work best for patrons

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## Why FRBR?

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- If you understand these concepts and terms
  - It will be easier to navigate the RDA text
  - It will be easier to use cataloger's judgment in context
  - You can better apply RDA (because we can't cover everything in classroom training -- unless you want training to last the rest of your lives)

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## FRBR

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### **Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records**

- Conceptual model
- Not a set of rules
- Uses an entity relationship model, rather than descriptive analysis

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## FRBR vs. RDA vs. MARC

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- FRBR is a conceptual model
- RDA is a cataloging standard that is based on the FRBR conceptual model
- MARC is an encoding scheme by which computers exchange, use, and interpret bibliographic information

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## FRBR

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### Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records

- Abstraction of how we can think about bibliographic records to facilitate relationships between data elements and between data and users
- Outlined in a 1998 report from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

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## FRBR Working for the User

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“FRBR is a user-centered model, explicitly relating its organization of entities and attributes to the users tasks identified by the 1998 IFLA modification to the Paris Principles (find, identify, select, and obtain).”

From: Antelman, K. (Oct. 2004). Identifying the Serial Work as a Bibliographic Entity. *Library Resources & Technical Services*, 48(4), 238.

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## FRBR User Tasks

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- Find

to locate either a single entity or a set of entities as the result of a search using an attribute or relationship of the entity

- Identify

to confirm that the entity described corresponds to the entity sought, or to distinguish between two or more entities with similar characteristics

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## FRBR User Tasks

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- Select

to choose an entity that meets the user's requirements with respect to content, physical format, etc., or to reject an entity as being inappropriate to the user's needs

- Obtain

to acquire an entity through purchase, loan, etc., or to access an entity electronically through an online connection

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## FRBR - Modeling the Bibliographic Universe

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- Utilizes an entity-relationship framework:
  - Entities (a class of things)
  - Relationships (associations among entities)
  - Attributes (characteristics of the entities)

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## FRBR - Modeling the Bibliographic Universe

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- Entities:
  - Group 1 Entities – Works, Expressions, Manifestations, and Items
  - Group 2 Entities – Persons, Corporate Bodies, Families
  - Group 3 Entities – Concept, Place, Event, Object, plus all Group 1 & 2 Entities

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## Vocabulary



### “Book”

Door prop

(item)

“publication”  
at bookstore  
any copy

(manifestation)

Cited from Patrick LeBoeuf, former chair of the IFLA FRBR Review Group

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## Vocabulary



### “Book”

–Who translated?  
(expression)

–Who wrote?  
(work)

Cited from Patrick LeBoeuf, former chair of the IFLA FRBR Review Group

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## Which “book” are you cataloging?

- When you catalog a “book” on your desk:
  - You are working with a FRBR Group 1 *Item*
  - The bibliographic record you create will represent a FRBR Group 1 *Manifestation*
  - Attributes of other FRBR group entities may appear in the bibliographic record

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## WEMI (or IMEW?)

- FRBR Group 1 entities
  - Work
  - Expression
  - Manifestation
  - Item

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## The *Item* in FRBR

- *Item* is a concrete entity
- A single physical object (e.g., a copy of a one-volume monograph, a single audio cassette, etc.)
- or:
- Can comprise more than one physical object (e.g., a monograph issued as two separately bound volumes, a recording issued on three separate compact discs, etc.).

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## Quick Quiz! Identify the FRBR *Item*

- A. Digitized version of the printed Oxford University Press text published in 2008?
- B. Leatherbound autographed copy in Rare Books Collection?
- C. French translation?
- D. London Symphony Orchestra 2005 performance?
- E. Shakespeare's Hamlet?

Tillett, Barbara. Library of Congress. March 4, 2009. *FRBR: Things You Should Know, But Were Afraid To Ask*

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### Quick Quiz! Which “book” is the FRBR *Item*?

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- A. We should order that *book*.
- B. I'd like to read that *book* in French.
- C. I have lost my *book*.
- D. That movie is based on my favorite *book*.

Riva, Pat. CLA 2010 Conference, Edmonton, Alberta. 2 June 2010. *IFLA's Conceptual Models and RDA*

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### The *Manifestation* in FRBR

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- Encompasses a wide range of materials
  - Manuscripts
  - Books
  - Periodicals
  - Maps
  - Posters
  - Sound recordings
  - CD-ROMs
  - Multimedia kits
- Represents all the physical objects that bear the same characteristics, in respect to both intellectual content and physical form

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## Quick Quiz! Identify the FRBR *Manifestation*

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- A. Digitized version of the printed Oxford University Press text published in 2008?
- B. Leatherbound autographed copy in Rare Books Collection?
- C. French translation?
- D. London Symphony Orchestra 2005 performance?
- E. Shakespeare's Hamlet?

Tillett, Barbara. Library of Congress. March 4, 2009. *FRBR: Things You Should Know, But Were Afraid To Ask*

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## Quick Quiz! Which "book" is the FRBR *Manifestation?*

---

- A. We should order that *book*.
- B. I'd like to read that *book* in French.
- C. I have lost my *book*.
- D. That movie is based on my favorite *book*.

Riva, Pat. CLA 2010 Conference, Edmonton, Alberta. 2 June 2010. *IFLA's Conceptual Models and RDA*

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## The *Expression* in FRBR

- The intellectual or artistic realization of a *work* in the form of:
  - Alpha-numeric notation
  - Musical notation
  - Choreographic notation
  - Sound
  - Image
  - Object
  - Movement
  - Or any combination of such forms


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## Quick Quiz! Identify the FRBR *Expression*

- A. Digitized version of the printed Oxford University Press text published in 2008?
- B. Leatherbound autographed copy in Rare Books Collection?
- C. French translation?
- D. London Symphony Orchestra 2005 performance?
- E. Shakespeare's Hamlet?

Tillett, Barbara. Library of Congress. March 4, 2009. *FRBR: Things You Should Know, But Were Afraid To Ask*

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### Quick Quiz! Which “book” is the FRBR *Expression*?

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- A. We should order that *book*.
- B. I'd like to read that *book* in French.
- C. I have lost my *book*.
- D. That movie is based on my favorite *book*.

Riva, Pat. CLA 2010 Conference, Edmonton, Alberta. 2 June 2010. *IFLA's Conceptual Models and RDA*

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### The *Work* in FRBR

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- Abstract entity
- No single material object one can point to
- Recognized through individual realizations or expressions
- Exists only in the commonality of content between and among the various expressions

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### Quick Quiz! Identify the FRBR *Work*

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- A. Digitized version of the printed Oxford University Press text published in 2008?
- B. Leatherbound autographed copy in Rare Books Collection?
- C. French translation?
- D. London Symphony Orchestra 2005 performance?
- E. Shakespeare's Hamlet?

Tillett, Barbara. Library of Congress. March 4, 2009. *FRBR: Things You Should Know, But Were Afraid To Ask*

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### Quick Quiz! Which “book” is the FRBR *Work*?

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- A. We should order that *book*.
- B. I'd like to read that *book* in French.
- C. I have lost my *book*.
- D. That movie is based on my favorite *book*.

Riva, Pat. CLA 2010 Conference, Edmonton, Alberta. 2 June 2010. *IFLA's Conceptual Models and RDA*

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## Online Quiz 1: FRBR Terminology

- Online Graded Quiz – 15 minutes
  - Multiple Choice
  - Fill-in-the Blanks
  - True/False
  - Graded results at end of quiz
- Instructor will guide you through the first question

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## FRBR as philosophy

FRBR is the library version of Plato's forms

The *Work* is the chair, which is something to sit on, and which is tied to a particular person who thought of a chair

The *Expression* is a specific type of that chair, such as an office chair, a dining room table chair, a schoolroom chair, a lounge chair, a metal folding chair, etc.

The *Manifestation* is the manufacturing run of Sauder's office chair that has microsuede fabric and the ability to adjust height.

The *Item* is the chair you are sitting in now



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## Attributes of an *Item*

- *Item* identifier
- Fingerprint
- Provenance of the *item*
- Marks/inscriptions
- Exhibition history
- Condition of the *item*
- Treatment history
- Scheduled treatment
- Access restrictions on the *item*

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## *Item* attribute example

- Look at this record – showing item attributes
- Provenance from a rare book catalog

060	0	0	GV1545.R7 #b A4
061			GV1545.R7 #b A4 Copy 4 #c With inscription on t.p.: Prop. Houdini. Leand [sic] only to Goldin.
061			GV1545.R7 #b A4 Copy 5 #c Extra-illustrated copy, with photographs of Robert-Houdini's tomb, various obituaries, clippings, a performance handbill from 1848, etc., mostly tipped in, although a few are laid in. Ms. annotations in the hand of Houdini throughout and extensive notes on blanks at end. Autographed by Houdini on added free front-endpaper.
061			GV1545.R7 #b A4 Copy 6 #c Imperfect: wanting t.p. Autograph of Houdini. Photographic reproduction of a 2 leaf letter, signed Robert Houdini, dated 18 Apr. 1860, laid in.

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## Item attribute quiz

- Look at the record on the next slide
- Identify the item attribute

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## Item attribute quiz

246	1	#1 First title: #a New coin tricks	1?
246	1	#1 Variant title, from no. 12, etc.: #a Now famous serial works on conjuring	
246	3	0	Serial lessons in conjuring
4	2?	[London : #b E. Stanyon & Co., #c 1899-1910]	3?
300		21 pamphlets in 1 v. : #b ill. ; #c 18 cm.	
600		Title from no. 21.	
610	4	Price, H. STC of works on psychical res., #c p. 357	
605	0	no. 1. New coin tricks – no. 2. Bibliography of conjuring – no. 3. New coin tricks, second series – no. 4. New handkerchief tricks – no. 5. New card tricks, first series – no. 6. New miscellaneous tricks and memory feats – no. 7. New juggling tricks, first series – no. 8. New card tricks, second series – no. 9. The original tricks of Clement de Lion – no. 10. New miscellaneous tricks, second series – no. 11. New fire tricks and chemical magic for the stage, first series – no. 12. Great paper & string tricks, first series – no. 13. Great handcut tricks – [no. 14]. Stanyon's new silent thought transmission – no. 15. New billiard ball sleights, first series – no. 16. Original explanatory programmes, first series – no. 17. Fire and chemical magic for drawing-room and stage performances, second series – no. 18. Fire and chemical magic for drawing-room and stage performances, third series – no. 19. New handkerchief tricks, second series – no. 20. New card tricks, third series – no. 21. New card tricks, fourth series.	
581		LC copy has inscription: bot from Hagen collection. Harry Houdini. #6 DLC	4?
650	0	Magic tricks.	



## Attributes of a *Manifestation*

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- Title of the *manifestation*
- Statement of responsibility
- Edition/issue designation
- Place of publication/distribution
- Publisher/distributor
- Date of publication/distribution
- Fabricator/manufacturer
- Series statement
- Form of carrier
- Extent of the carrier
- Physical medium
- Others ...

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## *Manifestation* attribute quiz

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- Look at the record on the next slide
- Identify the manifestation attribute

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## Manifestation attribute quiz

100	1		<u>Stanyon, Ellis, #d 1870-1951.</u>	1?
245	1	0	<u>Stanyon's serial lessons in conjuring.</u>	2?
246	1		#i First title: #a New coin tricks	
246	1		#i Variant title, from no. 12, etc.: #a Now famous serial works on conjuring	
246	3	0	Serial lessons in conjuring	
260			[London : #b E. Stanyon & Co., #c 1899-1910]	
300			21 pamphlets in 1 v. : #b ill. ; #c 18 cm.	3?
500			Title from no. 21.	
510	4		<u>Price, H. STC of works on psychical res., #c p. 357</u>	4?

## Attributes of an *Expression*

- Form of *expression*
- Date of the *expression*
- Language of *expression*
- Other distinguishing characteristic
- Extensibility of *expression*
- Revisibility of *expression*
- Extent of the *expression*
- Summarization of content
- Others ...

## Expression attribute quiz

- Look at the record on the next slide
- Identify the expression attribute

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## Expression attribute quiz

100	1		Stanyon, Ellis, #d 1870-1951.
245	1	0	Stanyon's serial lessons in conjuring.
246	1		#i First title: #a New coin tricks 1?
246	1		#i Variant title, from no. 12, etc.: #a Now famous serial works on conjuring
246	3	0	Serial lessons in conjuring
260			[London : #b E. Stanyon & Co., #c 1899-1910] 2?
300	3?		21 pamphlets in 1 v. : #b ill. ; #c 18 cm.
500			Title from no. 21. 4?
510	4		Price, H. STC of works on psychical res., #c p. 357



## Attributes of a *Work*

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- Title of the *work*
- Form of *work*
- Date of the *work*
- Other distinguishing characteristic
- Intended termination
- Intended audience
- Context for the *work*
- Others ...

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## *Work* attribute quiz

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- Look at the record on the next slide
- Identify the work attribute

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## Work attribute quiz

100	1	Schaum, John W. #q (John Walter), #d 1905- <span>1?</span>
245	1	0 Classic melodies from great operas ; #b for piano ; for beginners of all ages / #c compiled, arranged and edited by John W. Schaum.
4	3?	Megoun, Wl : #b Schaum Publications, #c c1960. <span>2?</span>
300		v. of music : #b ill. ; #c 31 cm.
500		Publisher's no.: 07-43 M-9.
505	1	[v. 1.] Primer Level (Preparatory).
650	0	Piano music. <span>4?</span>

## Online Quiz 2: Attributes of FRBR Group 1 Entities

- Online Graded Quiz – 15 minutes
  - Multiple Choice
  - True/False
  - Graded results at end of quiz
- Instructor will guide you through the first question

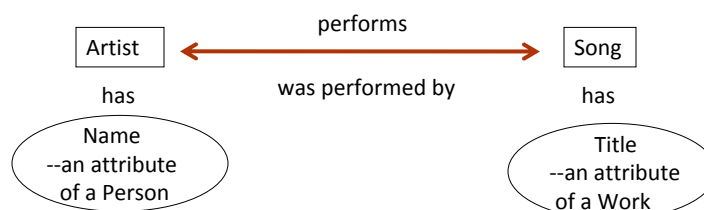
## Entity Relationships and FRBR

- Inherent relationships:
  - work “is realized by” by an expression
  - expression “is embodied in” a manifestation
  - manifestation “is exemplified by” an item
- Content relationships:
  - Equivalence
  - Derivative
  - Descriptive
  - Whole/part
  - Part-to-part
  - Shared characteristics

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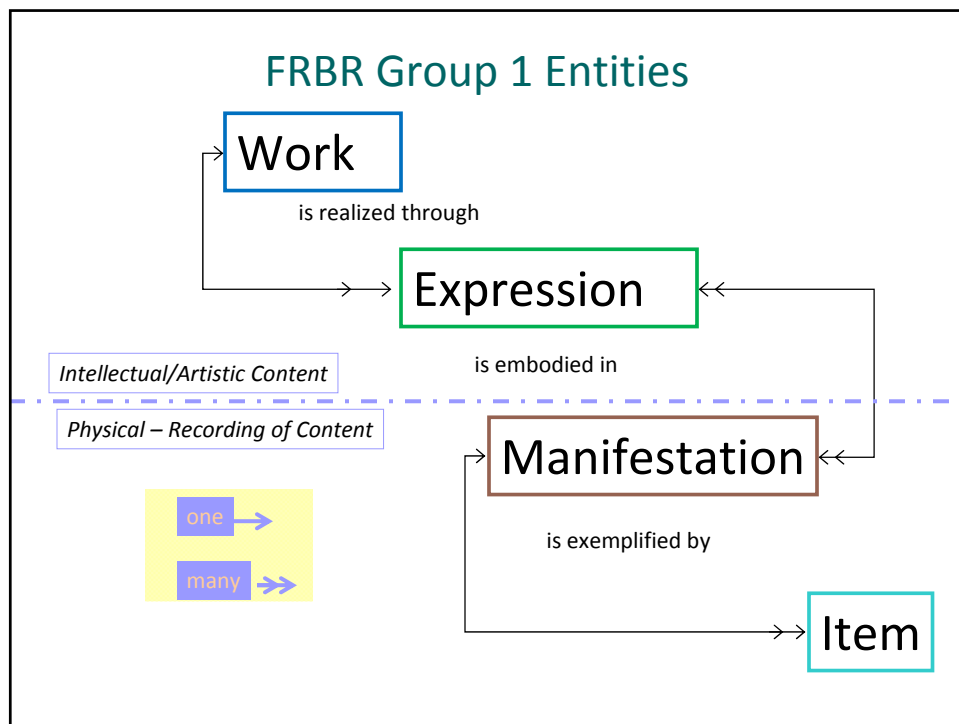
## Entity Relationships and FRBR

- The first stage of information system design uses these models during the requirements analysis to describe information needs or the type of information that is to be stored.



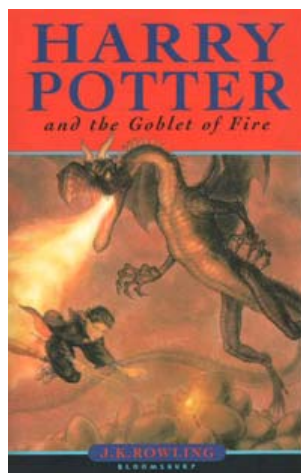
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## Quick Quiz!

## Identifying Group 1 Entities



### Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire

Summary: Fourteen-year-old Harry Potter joins the Weasleys at the Quidditch World Cup, then enters his fourth year at Hogwarts Academy where he is mysteriously entered in an unusual contest that challenges his wizarding skills, friendships and character, amid signs that an old enemy is growing stronger.

This book is number four in the Harry Potter series.

## Quick Quiz! Identifying Group 1 Entities

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Identify the FRBR Group 1 entities:

- Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
- Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
- Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
- Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

Works

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## Quick Quiz! Identifying Group 1 Entities

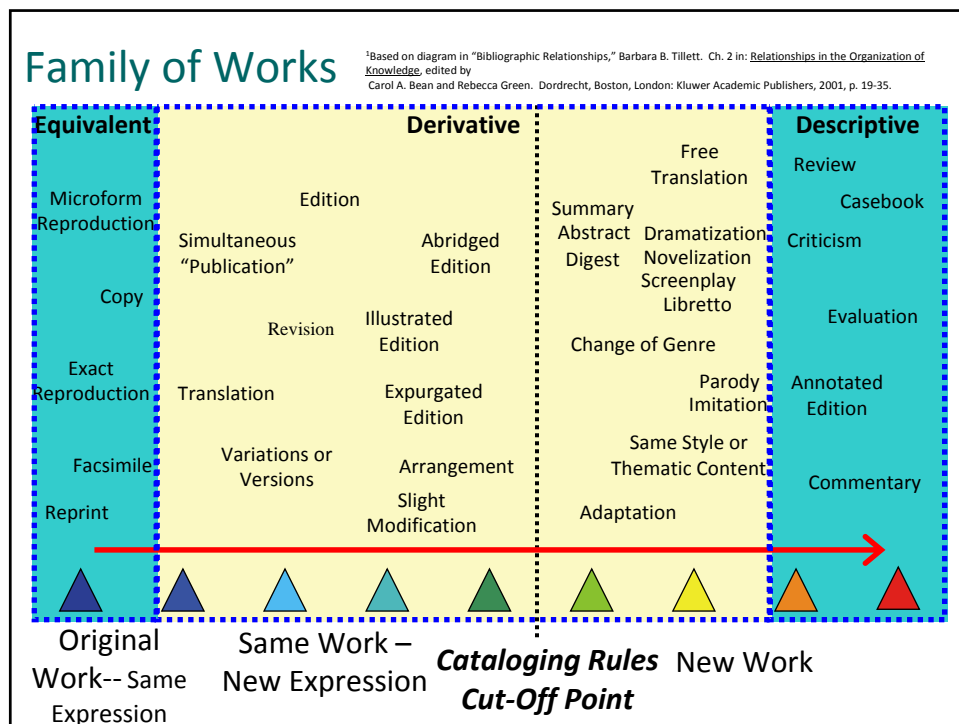
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Adaptations:

- Movie: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2005)
- Video game: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2005)

Expressions or Works!

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## Quick Quiz! Identifying Group 1 Entities

Expression

- Original English version (2000)
- Bloomsbury (UK) hardcover
- Bloomsbury (UK) paperback
- Bloomsbury (UK) paperback (adult cover)
- Scholastic (US) hardcover
- Scholastic (US) paperback
- Raincoast (Canada) hardcover
- Raincoast (Canada) paperback
- Penguin (Canada) paperback (adult cover)

Manifestations

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## Quick Quiz! Identifying Group 1 Entities

### ○ Translations

- Arabic
  - Hardcover
  - Softcover
- Finnish
  - Hardcover
  - Softcover
- Italian
  - Hardcover
  - Softcover

Group of Expressions

Expression

Manifestations

Expression

Manifestations

Expression

Manifestations

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## Quick Quiz! Identifying Group 1 Entities

### ○ Audiobooks

- Jim Dale's reading (2000)
  - Listening Library: 17 cassettes
  - Listening Library: 12 CDs
- Stephen Fry's unabridged
  - BBC Audiobooks: 14 CDs
  - BBC Audiobooks: 18 CDs

Group of Expressions

Expression

Manifestations

Expression

Manifestations

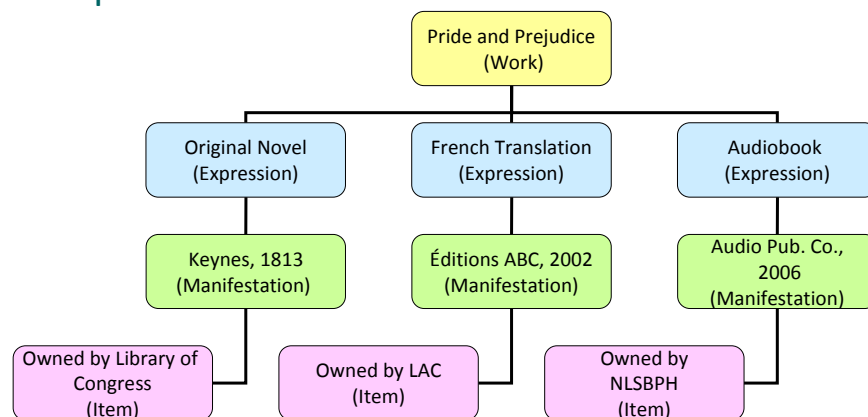
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## Quick Quiz! Identifying Group 1 Entities

- Audiobooks in translation Group of Expressions
  - French Expression
    - CD Manifestations
    - Cassette Manifestations
  - Japanese Expression
    - CD Manifestations
    - Cassette Manifestations

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## More Examples of Group 1 Entities



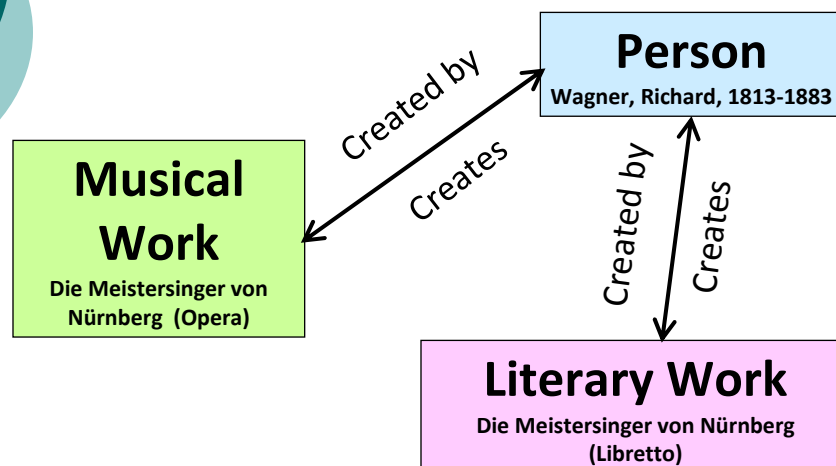
Hitchen, Alison, and Ellen Symons. "Preparing Catalogers for RDA Training." *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 47 (2009): 691-707.

## Group 2 Entities

- Persons, corporate bodies, and families responsible for:
  - the intellectual or artistic content,
  - the physical production and dissemination, or
  - the custodianship of the entities

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## Group 2 Entities



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## FRAD

### ○ Functional Requirements for Authority Data

#### ○ User tasks:

- Find: Find an entity or set of entities corresponding to stated criteria
- Identify: Identify an entity
- Clarify (Justify): Document the authority record creator's reason for choosing the name or form of name on which an access point is based.
- Contextualize (Understand): Place a person, corporate body, work, etc. in context
  - Example: WorldCat Identities: <http://worldcat.org/identities/>

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## FRAD Attributes

### Attributes of a person

- |                                                                     |                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| ● Title of person                                                   | ● Affiliation                                             |
| ● Dates associated with the person (birth/death/period of activity) | ● Address                                                 |
| ● Gender                                                            | ● Language of person                                      |
| ● Place of birth                                                    | ● Field of activity                                       |
| ● Place of death                                                    | ● Profession / occupation                                 |
| ● Country                                                           | ● Biography / history                                     |
| ● Place of residence                                                | ● Other informational elements associated with the person |

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## FRAD Attributes

### Attributes of a family

- Type of family
- Dates of family
- Places associated with family
- Field of activity
- History of family

### Attributes of a corporate body

- Place associated
- Dates associated
- Language of the corporate body
- Address
- Field of activity
- History
- Other information associated with the corporate body

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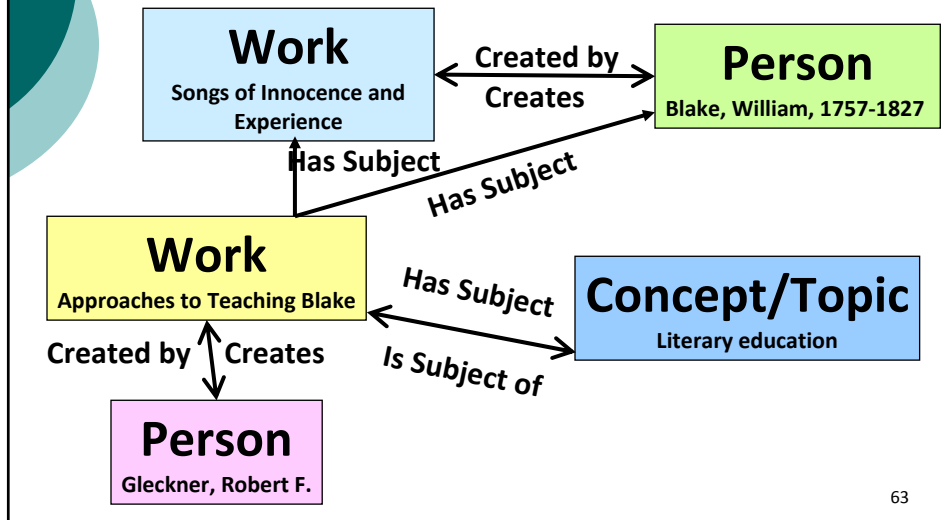
## Group 3 Entities (FRSAD)

- Subjects of Group 1 or Group 2's intellectual endeavor, and include:
  - Concepts
  - Objects
  - Events
  - Places

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## Group 3 Entities



## Back to User Tasks

- At the beginning of this course, we looked at FRBR User Tasks
- Then we looked at FRAD User Tasks
- Here is a comparison of the two:

### Bibliographic Data

- Find
- Identify
- Select
- Obtain

### Authority Data

- Find
- Identify
- Clarify (Justify)
- Understand (Contextualize)

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## Why Do Libraries Need FRBR?

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- To avoid becoming marginalized by other information delivery services
- To cut costs for the description and access to resources in our libraries
- To encourage redesign of our systems to move us into linked data information discovery and navigation systems in the Internet environment
- To make our bibliographic descriptions and access data more internationally acceptable

Tillett, Barbara. *Keeping libraries relevant in the semantic Web with RDA: Resource Description and Access*. First appeared in *Serials*, Nov. 2011 issue, Vol. 24, no. 3.

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## Bibliography

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- Antelman, K. (Oct. 2004). Identifying a Serial Work as a Bibliographic Entity. *Library Resources & Technical Services*, 48(4), 238.
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